

Patterns of learning in the accountancy profession

This questionnaire asks you about your current learning activities. It should take you less than ten minutes to complete and will help build up a picture about how ICAEW members learn in their very many different roles. The aim is to explore patterns of learning and share what learning has been of most value to members at different stages of their careers.

Learning is 'a broad range of processes whereby an individual acquires capabilities'*. It includes activities that traditionally have been described as CPD (continuing professional development), but is wider than that. This questionnaire explores that wider range of learning activity and is seeking the views of ICAEW members in many different contexts, including those who are self-employed, those currently in employment and those not working at present.

**International Accounting Education Standards Board Glossary of Terms, p.26*

Please answer each question by ticking the box that is most appropriate.

If you have any queries about the questionnaire please contact hl@hilarylindsay.co.uk

1. In your present role, whether you are in work or not, how relevant are each of the following learning activities?

	Highly relevant	Often relevant	Occasionally relevant	Not relevant
Accessing the internet for information	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Attending courses, conferences and seminars	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Being shown by others how to do certain activities and tasks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Doing your job on a regular basis	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Interacting with experts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Participating in workshops with peers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Reading magazines, newspapers and journals	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Reading technical material	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Reflecting on your performance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Studying online learning modules	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Watching and listening to others while they carry out their work	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

2. In your present role, whether you are in work or not, how likely are you to describe each of the following learning activities as CPD?

	Most of the time	Often	Occasionally	Never
Accessing the internet for information	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Attending courses, conferences and seminars	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Being shown by others how to do certain activities and tasks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Doing your job on a regular basis	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Interacting with experts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Participating in workshops with peers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Reading magazines, newspapers and journals	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Reading technical material	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Reflecting on your performance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Studying online learning modules	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Watching and listening to others while they carry out their work	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

3. How influential are each of the following in your current choice of learning activities?

	Highly influential	Often influential	Occasionally influential	Never influential
If a partner, your partners	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
If an employee, your line manager	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
If in work, the organisation you work for	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
If in work, work colleagues	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
You	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

4. How much does each of the following affect your current choice of learning activities?

	A large amount	A medium amount	A small amount	Not at all
The need to be up to date in your field	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The need to comply with CPD requirements	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The need to meet other regulatory requirements	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The requirements of your current role	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Your desire for new skills or knowledge	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Your future career aspirations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

5. How much does each of the following limit your current involvement in learning activities?

	A large amount	A medium amount	A small amount	Not at all
The cost of some learning activities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The lack of relevant activities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The location of some learning activities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The organisation you work for	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The time needed to take part in some activities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

6. Please add here any other points about your learning activities that you feel have not been covered by the questions.

7. Please provide the following details to help with the analysis of the completed questionnaires.

What is your current status?

Please tick the **one** box that most applies

- Employed
- Self-employed
- In a portfolio career
- On a career break
- Unemployed
- Other (please give details)

Where do you work?

Please tick the **one** box that most applies

- Public practice
- Industry and commerce
- Public sector
- Charity and not for profit sector
- Nowhere at present
- Other (please give details)

What is your gender?

- Male
- Female

What is your age?

- 34 and under
- 35-44
- 45-54
- 55 and over

Please now complete the second column 

What is your current role?

Please tick the **one** box that most applies

- Director/partner or equivalent
- Senior manager
- Middle manager
- Junior manager
- With no role at present

How large is your organisation?

Please tick the **one** box that most applies

- I am a sole trader
- 2-10 employees
- 11-250 employees
- Over 250 employees
- With no organisation at present

In which areas do you currently work?

Please tick **all** the boxes that apply

- Audit
- Business advice
- Corporate finance
- Financial management
- Financial reporting
- Financial services
- General management
- Information technology
- Insolvency
- Taxation
- Other (please give details)

8. The next stage of my research will involve interviewing some ICAEW members to discuss the role of learning at turning points in their careers. If you would be interested in taking part in a one to one interview please provide your name and contact details.

Name

Address or

e mail address

If you are willing to take part in an interview but wish your questionnaire response to remain anonymous, please write giving your contact details to hl@hilarylindsay.co.uk.

Thank you for taking the time to complete the questionnaire.

Please now return it in the reply paid envelope provided. If this has been mislaid, please post the questionnaire to Hilary Lindsay, 23 Stourhead Drive, Northampton, NN4 0UH.